

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Alberto PIROVANO)
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned) Group Art Unit: Not assigned
Filed: December 27, 2001) Examiner: Not assigned
For: SUBMARINE CABLE)
BRANCHING UNIT WITH)
CURRENT LIMITER)



Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicant brings to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 and cited in the European search report. Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicant respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

The following is listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 and is in a non-English language:

1. WIPO/PCT - 00/59126

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In lieu of a statement of relevance or translation of the non-English document, enclosed is an English-language international search report from the European Patent Office citing this document and setting forth the relevance thereof.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicant further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: December 27, 2001

By: 

Ernest F. Chapman
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Enclosures
EFC/FPD/dvz

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